

FOUNDATION FOR FAIR CONTRACTING OF CONNECTICUT, INC.

1268 Main St., Suite 202 Newington, CT 06111 www.ffcct.org

Energy & Technology Committee Public Hearing

March 3, 2022

Re: SB 176 - An Act Concerning Shared Clean Energy Facilities

Chairman Needleman, Chairman Arconti, Ranking Member Formica, Ranking Member Ferraro, and members of the Energy & Technology Committee,

The Foundation for Fair Contracting of Connecticut (FFC) is a non-profit organization created by labor and management in order to monitor all public works construction projects covered under the Connecticut General Statutes Section 31-53 and the Davis-Bacon Act. We accomplish this by reviewing public documents prepared and/or submitted by the owner and contractor(s). We focus on licensing, proper payment of prevailing wage rates, proper classification of workers and properly administered state apprenticeship standards.

We are submitting testimony regarding SB 176, "An Act Concerning Shared Clean Energy Facilities".

Specifically, we support Section 1(2) of the legislation, which increases the size of SCEF projects that PURA approves from two megawatts to five megawatts. We also support Section 3(c)(1), which increases the aggregate total megawatts from twenty-five to thirty-five megawatts per year.

Last year in the 2021 legislative session, the legislature adopted SB 999 (Public Act 21-43), which requires certain renewable energy construction projects to meet prevailing wage standards and requires developers to enter into community host agreements. The FFC was a proponent of last year's bill proposal as it would bolster our state approved apprenticeship programs, job training, and good workplace protections, like prevailing wage and the use of project labor agreements. We believe SB 999 was sound policy and applaud both the legislature and the Governor for supporting the proposal.

We, therefore, see SB 176 as an opportunity to expand on SB 999's intent by increasing the number of Class 1 Renewable projects that would be subject to the standards implemented in Public Act 21-43.

And for this reason, we ask this committee to consider also increasing the megawattage on Non-Residential Renewable Energy Solutions (NRES) projects.

Thank you to the Co-Chairs, Ranking Members, and distinguished members of the Energy & Technology Committee, for your consideration. In the meantime, should you have any questions

or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email at kglassman@ffcct.org or by phone at 860-667-7727.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Glassman

Director